

CITY OF



LANCASTER.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DEC.,

1948.

A. R. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Barrister-at-Law.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN
AND MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the health of the City for the year 1948.

The number of births was 858, giving a birth rate of 17, compared with 20·3 the year before, whilst the infant mortality rate of 28 beat the previous low record of 40 for the year 1946, which is a trend that is going on all over the country.

The death rate for the year was 11, compared with 12·1 for the previous year.

Measles was again very much reduced from last year, giving rise to 107 cases against 815, and again proved to be of a very mild nature.

A disquieting feature has been a rise in the cases of tuberculosis to the figure of 77, the highest since 1935. This has occurred in respect of the most distressing type, the pulmonary cases, which have increased to 66 from a ten year average of 41·6, which varied between 33 and 52. The deaths from tuberculosis, however, were only 25, compared with 29 for the year before.

Steady progress continues to be made in immunisation against diphtheria, with the gratifying result that only 1 case occurred in 1948. This compares with 3 cases for 1947, 25 for 1946, and a yearly average of 59 for the ten year period 1937 to 1946. A large saving of lives and illnesses must have resulted from diphtheria immunisation as it is incredible that such a reduction should have occurred otherwise. Similar figures pertain in the rest of the country.

Under the 1946 National Health Act, the City of Lancaster lost its powers in respect of immunisation against diphtheria, together with its Maternity and Child Welfare duties, which now devolve on the County Council.

Of the large number of 118 dysentery cases that arose during the year, 102 occurred at a large Mental Hospital and 14 cases at another.

Of the 3 cases of typhoid that occurred, 2 new cases arose in one the mental hospitals, which has a certain number of people who remain persistent carriers. The third case was that of a boy of 5 who made a good recovery, the source of infection being unable to be discovered.

The outstanding feature of the year was the completion of the Housing Survey undertaken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, which was commenced in January, 1947, and completed in July, 1948, a copy of which has been sent to the Ministry of Health.

We now possess most detailed records in a visible filing system of all the houses in Lancaster and the people inhabiting them.

Of the many interesting points brought out, I would like to comment on a few:—

- (1) Out of 13,156 houses and a population for housing purposes of 47,234, there were 113 dwellings (129 families) overcrowded under the Housing Act, 1936, standard.
- (2) In 1936 there were 181 dwellings overcrowded, so that strangely enough, there is less overcrowding now in Lancaster than then, although 120 houses were unoccupied at the time.
- (3) The standard of the 1936 Act, however, is so low that another 1,924 dwellings would become overcrowded if a bedroom standard were adopted, and people nowadays desire even more room than that.
- (4) No less than 868 dwellings are each occupied by 1 person and 605 of these dwellings contain 4 or more habitable rooms, a total of 3,030, not including scullery, bathroom, etc.
- (5) If even a proportion of these occupiers moved to flats, it would go a long way towards solving the housing problem, so that the building of flats or some form of guest houses for old couples and single persons would appear absolutely necessary especially in view of the large number of people over 65, a number which is continually increasing.
- (6) The rise in standard of living of the community is shown by the fact that 39·75 per cent. of houses are owner-occupied and, incidentally, very well kept.

- (7) There are more, but smaller families now. The number of families per house has increased from 1'03 in 1921 to 1'16 in 1948, but the actual number of persons per dwelling has decreased from 4'08 to 3'59.
- (8) Although there are 2,140 excess families over houses, many overcrowded families do not apply or wish to apply for new houses and enquiries show that for various reasons only 60 per cent. of sharing families desire to be on their own.
- (9) 8'16 per cent. of houses are over 85 years old, and 23'06 per cent. between 58 and 84 years old.
- (10) Houses that possess no bath compares ^{rise} 32'72 per cent. of the whole, a figure which must be worse, however, in many larger cities. 42'22 per cent. of the houses have outside w.c. only.
- (11) The total number of houses in need of repair or improvement is 3,471, which consists principally of the need for bath and hot water system. It cannot be carried out immediately because of labour shortage and the high cost of work, which with the relatively low rents, deter landlords from doing so

I would like to record my appreciation of the help and co-operation given to me by the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee, and also of the loyal assistance given to me by the staff in carrying out the work of the department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. R. GRAHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (in Acres)	5,036
Population (Registrar General's Estimate), Mid-year 1948 ...	50,250
Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books ...	13,240
Rateable Value	£315,164
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,264

Per 1,000 estimated
population.

LIVE BIRTHS.	BIRTH RATE	17
	Males. Females.	
Total	419 439	
Legitimate	400 420	
Illegitimate	19 19	

STILL BIRTHS.	Males. Females.	
Total	11 11	
Legitimate	10 11	
Illegitimate	1 0	

Per 1,000 total
(live & still births).

STILL BIRTH RATE 25

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Males. Females.	
Total	14 10	
Legitimate	14 8	
Illegitimate	0 2	

Per 1,000 live births.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE ... 28

Per 1,000 estimated
population.

DEATHS.	CRUDE DEATH RATE	11
Males	273	
Females	279	

MATERNAL DEATHS.	Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	
(1) Puerperal Sepsis	1	1'14
(2) Other maternal causes	1	1'14

DEATHS FROM—

Cancer	97
Measles	0
Whooping Cough	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	1
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	19
Other forms	4

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

	Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.				Maternal Mortality Rate.		Rate of Deaths under one year per 1,000 Live Births.
	Live Birth Rate	Death Rate.	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.	Death Rate from Cancer.	Per 1,000 Live Births.	Per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.	
Mean of 5 years, 1943-47	16.9	11.2	0.42	1.57	1.29	1.26	44
1947	20.3	12.1	0.53	1.76	0.97	0.94	41
1948	17.0	10.9	0.37	1.93	2.33	2.27	27
Increase or Decrease in 1948 on—							
5 years' Average, 1943-47	+0.1	-0.3	-0.05	+0.36	+1.04	+1.01	-17
Previous year	-3.3	-1.2	-0.16	+0.17	+1.36	+1.33	-14

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1948.

	CAUSES.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers	... 0	0	0
2.	Cerebro Spinal Fever	... 0	1	1
3.	Scarlet Fever	... 0	0	0
4.	Whooping Cough	... 1	0	1
5.	Diphtheria	... 0	0	0
6.	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	... 13	6	19
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	... 0	4	4
8.	Syphilitic diseases	... 3	2	5
9.	Influenza	... 1	0	1
10.	Measles	... 0	0	0
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis.	0	0	0
12.	Acute infectious Encephalitis	... 0	0	0
13.	Cancer of Buc: cav: & œsoph: (M) uterus (F)	6	4	10
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	... 10	8	18
15.	Cancer of breast	... 0	10	10
16.	Cancer of all other sites	... 35	24	59
17.	Diabetes	... 0	2	2
18.	Intra cranial vascular lesions	... 22	38	60
19.	Heart Disease	... 84	98	182
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	... 15	13	28
21.	Bronchitis	... 11	9	20
22.	Pneumonia	... 5	2	7
23.	Other respiratory diseases	... 2	3	5
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	... 3	3	6
25.	Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	... 1	0	1
26.	Appendicitis	... 0	1	1
27.	Other digestive diseases	... 1	4	5
28.	Nephritis	... 11	6	17
29.	Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	... 0	1	1
30.	Other maternal causes	... 0	1	1
31.	Premature birth	... 5	0	5
32.	Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile diseases:	... 3	6	9
33.	Suicide	... 4	3	7
34.	Road traffic accidents	... 3	1	4
35.	Other violent causes	... 6	2	8
36.	All other causes	... 28	27	55
Total Deaths from all Causes		...273	279	552

DEATHS BY WARDS in 1948.

	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65-75	75-80	80+	Total.
Castle ...	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	17	9	9	11	53
John O'Gaunt ...	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	4	28	34	15	18	109
Park ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	21	25	11	10	77
Queen's ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	18	6	14	48
Scotforth...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	16	15	21	20	78
Skerton East	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	5	12	11	6	7	46
Skerton West	7	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	10	20	24	14	19	100
St Anne's	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	9	14	4	7	41
Total ...	24	3	1	2	1	2	—	3	16	29	129	150	86	106	552

DEATHS IN HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS.

Royal Lancaster Infirmary	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
Bay View Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Lancaster Moor Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Lancaster Pulmonary Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Lancaster and District Isolation Hospital...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Nazareth House	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hospitals, etc., outside the area	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
							<hr/> 195

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Only 107 cases of measles occurred as against 815 for the year before. The disease is usually more prevalent every second year.

There was one case of diphtheria.

There were no cases of acute anterior poliomyelitis.

A severe outbreak of dysentery occurred at a large mental hospital which took some time to control.

Of 3 cases of typhoid fever, 2 occurred in a mental institution which has a large ward of typhoid carriers. The third case occurred in a boy of five, the source of infection being unable to be traced.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED.												Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths	
	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Total			
												65 & over			123
Scarlet Fever	—	1	2	9	14	77	13	6	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Diphtheria...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding Rubella)	7	13	14	12	3	13	25	7	11	1	—	1	107	—	—
Whooping Cough...	6	13	14	8	7	21	5	1	1	—	—	—	78*	—	—
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	4	4	1	1	1	6	—	—	3	10	14	—	44	—	15 all forms
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
” Polio-encephalitis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
” Encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	17	39	40	4	8	5	118	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	14	4	22	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Undulant Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Totals...	19	32	32	30	25	124	60	54	60	16	40	10	503*	—	16

* Includes one case of Whooping Cough, age not known.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following tables show the incidence of tuberculosis over the past ten years, with details of the present year.

The rise in notifications of the disease to the high figure of 77 is disturbing, especially as it has occurred in the pulmonary cases, with their accompanying social, economic and family distress.

There are 66 pulmonary cases as against a ten year average of 41·6, varying between 33 and 52.

A similar increase has occurred in other areas, notably in Scotland.

There is no definite cause that one could point to with certainty, and probably several factors are concerned.

One of the reasons is that mass miniature radiography brought to light some cases that would otherwise have remained temporarily hidden.

Certain diseases also have a periodic fluctuation due to climatic conditions, changes in population and susceptibility, etc., although tuberculosis has been undergoing a general decline over a long period.

The increase may also be partly due to the feeding of the nation, which, although generally regarded as fair and adequate, is lacking, especially in protein foods, the results of which may not show up for some time with a chronic disease like tuberculosis.

The death rate, however, was only 22, compared with 27 the previous year.

		CASES NOTIFIED.		DEATHS.	
		Respiratory.	Other Forms.	Respiratory.	Other Forms.
1939	...	36	12	15	2
1940	...	45	18	27	6
1941	...	48	10	25	3
1942	...	35	11	20	5
1943	...	43	10	19	2
1944	...	40	14	20	6
1945	...	46	13	17	10
1946	...	52	9	25	4
1947	...	38	7	27	2
1948	...	66	11	22	3

Notified cases and deaths in 1948:—

Age Periods		CASES NOTIFIED.				DEATHS.			
		Respiratory		Other Forms		Respiratory		Other Forms	
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0-1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1-5	...	1	2	3	1	—	—	—	1
5-10	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	...	1	9	—	—	—	2	—	—
20-25	...	1	6	1	—	—	1	—	—
25-35	...	6	11	1	—	3	2	—	—
35-45	...	5	3	1	2	4	3	—	—
45-55	...	9	2	1	1	2	—	—	—
55-65	...	5	1	—	—	4	1	—	—
Over 65	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Age unknown	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		32	34	7	4	13	9	1	2
		66		11		22		3	

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

A good response continues to be made by parents and as a result 724 children under 15 years of age received a full course of immunisation, while in addition 729 others received booster doses.

Of the children aged 0-5, 47·1 per cent. have been immunised, and 83·4 per cent. of children aged 5-15.

Only 1 case of diphtheria occurred during the year, the lowest ever recorded. It was a mild case in a child who had been immunised 4 years previously.

Very few school children are not now immunised.

The responsibility for diphtheria immunisation passed to the County Council after July 4th, although the figures are given for the whole year.

I. IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48.. i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1937-43	10 to 14 1932-36	Total under 15
Number Immunised ...	12	495	510	424	369	2,220	3,402	7,432
Estimated mid-year population 1948... ..	3,842					6,745		

II. DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS
IN RELATION TO IMMUNISATION.

NOTIFICATIONS.			DEATHS.		
Age at date of Notific- ation.	Number of cases notified.	Number of cases included in pre- ceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation.	Age at date of death.	Number of Deaths.	Number of cases included in pre- ceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation.
under 1...	—	—	under 1...	—	—
1-2...	—	—	1-2...	—	—
2-3...	—	—	2-3...	—	—
3-4...	—	—	3-4...	—	—
4-5...	—	—	4-5...	—	—
5-9...	1	1	5-9..	—	—
10-14...	—	—	10-14...	—	—
Totals ...	1	1	Totals ...	—	—

STEPS TO COMBAT INFESTATION.

The two special cleansing clinics operate regularly, although the number of cases attending shows a marked decrease. One woman is employed full-time in dealing with scabies and cases of pediculosis. Adult males are treated by a male part-time worker who is paid on a sessional basis.

Sacker's steel combs and special head lotions, *e.g.*, Lethane, are lent or supplied from the clinic in suitable cases, with instructions for use.

The health visitors, who are also school nurses, follow up their routine cleanliness examinations at schools, and give advice regarding pre-school children and others.

Leaflets are distributed throughout the schools and Infant Welfare Centres in regard to the maintenance of personal cleanliness.

The following table gives details of treatments for scabies for the whole year :—

	Adults		Pre-School		School		Total	
	Cases	Treats.	Cases	Treats.	Cases	Treats.	Cases	Treats.
Thurnham House ...	5	9	17	26	37	66	59	101
Hare Runs	7	15	3	7	12	23	22	45

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Under the 1946 Act, this section passed on July 5th to the County Council, and the figures given refer to the half-year ending on July 4th.

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS (Up to 4/7/48).

	0-12 months			1-5 years	
	First Attendances	Re-Attendances		First Attendances	Re-Attendances
Thurnham House...	235	2540	...	35	630
Ryelands House ...	127	1559	...	17	325

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS (up to 4/7/48).

	First attendances	Re-attendances	Total
Thurnham House ...	174	409	583
Ryelands House ...	89	293	382

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS (Up to 4/7/48).

Live Births	...	...	448	
Still Births	...	...	12	
Total	...	460		Non-notified Births... 4

Place of confinement—Lancaster residents :—

Royal Lancaster Infirmary	...	...	204
Westhaven Nursing Home	...	...	42
Public Assistance Institution	...	...	14
Private Nursing Homes outside Lancaster			11
Own Home	...	...	193
			<hr/>
			464

Of 420 births investigated :—

Delivered by a Doctor	...	...	91
„ „ Midwife	...	...	327
Born before arrival of Doctor or Midwife			2

INFANTILE MORTALITY (Whole year).

No. of deaths of Infants under one year of age	...	...	24
Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	28

Infant Deaths by Wards :—

Ward.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Castle ...	2	—	2
John o'Gaunt...	3	4	7
Park ...	1	1	2
Queen's	—	1	1
Scotforth	1	1	2
Skerton East	1	—	1
Skerton West...	6	1	7
St. Anne's	—	2	2

CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE.	Under one week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	TOTAL.
Convulsions ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Enteritis ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation (over-laying) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Premature Birth ...	1	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Other Causes ...	2	1	2	—	5	6	2	1	1	15
Total ...	5	1	5	—	11	6	3	2	2	24

WORK OF HEALTH VISITORS (up to 4/7/48).

Routine Visits to :

	1st Visit.	Re-Visits.	Total.
Expectant mothers ...	117	42	159
Children under 1 year ...	420	955	1375
Children 1-5 years ...	—	1882	1882
Special Visits ...	—	—	76

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION (Foster Children).

Seventeen children were on the register at the end of the half year. 22 visits were made up to July 4th by the Health Visitors.

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

The City Council joined the scheme formulated by the Lancashire County Council in accordance with the provisions of Ministry of Health Circular 2866, and worked in close association with voluntary bodies already in existence. The scheme worked very smoothly during the year. Two illegitimate children were provided for under the scheme.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

No special arrangements have been made for the care of premature infants.

HOME HELP SCHEME FOR MATERNITY CASES.

Home Helps were provided in four confinements.

DOMESTIC HELP SCHEME.

Following further publicity, the demand for the services of Domestic Helps increased and 33 cases were dealt with during the half-year. The Domestic Helpers are mostly part-time, and 24 were available.

DAY NURSERIES.

One Nursery at Ryelands Park was in operation throughout the year as a non-residential Day Nursery. The estimated number of places possible is 68, but with the staff available the maximum number that can be catered for is 50. The following details show the average daily attendances :—

1948	0—2	2—5	Total
January	17	26	43
February	21	30	51
March	21	26	47
April	17	32	49
May	15	32	47
June... ..	18	41	59

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (REGULATIONS) ACT, 1939.

Number of persons who gave notice under section 7 (3)	
during the year	1
Total number of children “adopted” under the section	
during the year	3

PART II.

Sanitary Circumstances
of the City.

Annual Report of the
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

F. SHAW, D.P.A., M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S E.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
AND SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE AREA.

To the Medical Officer of Health, City of Lancaster.

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting, in accordance with Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, my Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration of the City for the Year 1948.

The middle of the year under review saw the completion of the very exhaustive housing survey which was commenced in 1947. Although we now have a fairly accurate picture of the housing problems of the City, it was, unfortunately, not found possible to achieve any great improvement in housing conditions. Disrepair of dwellings is widespread, and the present heavy demand for new houses is not unrelated to the lack of modern amenities in many of the older ones. If, by schemes of conversion into flats, a greater use could be made of the larger type of house, it would go a long way to ease some of our difficulties.

Extensive reconditioning and alterations are required at all types of premises within the City, not the least important of which are those used in connection with the preparation, storage, and sale of food. Our resources for these purposes, however, are so limited in relation to the total demand for them, that many below standard conditions will have to be tolerated a little while longer.

One of the greatest difficulties which the department has had to meet, has been to decide upon the improvements which might be reasonably required under present circumstances and those which regretfully have had to be put off for a future date. Works required for the abatement of serious nuisances have naturally received priority, and these, together with a few improvements in the more important food premises and factories, have been about as much as could be achieved during the year. The drafting of standards for bakehouses, etc., and their enforcement, together with many needed improvements in public houses, etc., have had to be postponed.

Present high building costs were found to be a real deterrent to people otherwise willing to carry out improvements to premises. This was particularly the case with houses, the rents for which are at present fixed at the 1939 level.

Conditions at the Public Abattoir are far from satisfactory. The buildings are obsolete and worn out, and the question of providing a new one should be dealt with without further delay.

I wish to acknowledge the loyal service given at all times by the staff of the department, and to express my thanks to yourself for help and advice.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

FREDERICK SHAW,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

WORK OF SANITARY INSPECTORS.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AT END OF 1948.

Privy Middens—No. of middens, 1 ; No. of closets attached to these middens, 1. No. of pail closets, 10. No. of dry ashpits, 6. No. of movable ashbins, 14,076. No. of houses on water carriage system, 13,229. No. of fresh water closets, 17,142. No. of waste water closets, nil. Conversions during 1948, Nil.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1948.

No. of premises visited, 18,858. Defects or nuisances—No. discovered, 1,050 ; No. abated, 901. No. of notices served—Informal, 681 ; Statutory, 342. Legal proceedings, Nil.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED FOLLOWING ACTION BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Repairs to Dwelling Houses.

Roofs repaired or stripped and renewed	...	...	75
External walls re-built	...	...	5
External walls re-pointed	...	...	15
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	77
Eaves Gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	127
Chimney Stacks re-built	...	...	4
Yards and Passages pavements repaired or renewed	...	...	6
Ceilings re-plastered or repaired	...	...	13
Internal walls re-plastered or repaired	...	...	39
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	36
Doors	„	„	17
Floors	„	„	13
Fireplaces	„	„	27
Cooking ranges or stoves repaired or renewed	...	...	3
Wash Boilers repaired or renewed	...	...	3
Sinks renewed	...	...	11
Repairs to water supply systems	...	...	8
Miscellaneous...	...	...	52

Improvements in Registered Premises.

Structural improvements in food-preparing premises	...	4
„ „ food premises, general	...	3
„ „ factories	...	19
Miscellaneous	...	8

Drainage, Sanitary Accommodation, Etc.

Drains cleared from obstruction...	...	...	51
Public Sewers cleared from obstruction	...	...	12
Drains re-laid or repaired	...	...	48
Sewers „ „	...	...	10
Soil pipes, waste pipes, etc., repaired or renewed	...	...	19

Water Closets.

Additional w.c.'s provided in houses	...	...	2
W.C. compartments re-built or repaired	...	...	29
W.C. basins renewed	...	...	42
W.C. cisterns renewed or repaired	...	...	30

Various.

Nuisances from animals abated	...	...	2
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	7
Additional dustbins provided	...	...	2
Dustbins renewed	...	...	70
Insanitary receptacles replaced	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	2

Issue of certificates of priority for supply of building materials, etc.

During the year 154 certificates of priority for the supply of timber were given to building contractors and others.

SHOPS (Shops Act, 1934, Section 10).

Forty-nine inspections of shops were made in connection with the provisions of adequate ventilation, the maintenance of reasonable temperatures and the provision of suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation and washing facilities. Although the welfare facilities provided for staffs in most of the larger shops were found to be up to a reasonable standard, conditions in shops generally were not found to be so satisfactory. The present general economic position of the country, however, makes it necessary to restrict requests for improvements to those items considered to be absolutely essential.

OFFICES.

Conditions in many of the offices contained in the older buildings of the City are far from ideal, and when circumstances permit, measures will have to be taken to obtain improvements.

CAMPING SITES (OTHER THAN MILITARY).

No sites were used for camping purposes, and consequently no action was necessary under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The City of Lancaster is fortunate, in that it has not to deal with the pollution of the atmosphere from smoke to the same extent as some of the larger industrial towns. It is not, however, completely without its smoke problems. During the year the 39 factory chimneys in the City were kept under observation by the district sanitary inspectors, and one firm had to be served with a notice to abate a nuisance caused by the emission of black smoke. Efficient combustion and an absence of black smoke go hand in hand. Difficulties are still experienced however in obtaining the most suitable fuel for the particular plant, and therefore it was necessary during the year to continue to carry out the duties in respect to smoke abatement with a large measure of understanding of present difficulties. A much stronger line may have to be taken in the immediate future, however, unless some firms make greater efforts to prevent the pollution of the atmosphere.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Thirty-one houses, 30 Council owned and one other, were disinfested by means of liquid insecticides, and 165 vans of furniture were fumigated with HCN during re-housing operations.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of premises...5.

Types of offensive trades :—

Fellmonger	...	...	...	1
Gut Scrapers	...	...	...	2
Rag and Bone Dealer...	...	...	...	1
Tripe Boiler	...	...	...	1

All the offensive trades in the City were carried on during the year without serious nuisance. The premises situated at the public abattoir, and used for tripe boiling and gut scraping, are, however, worn out and obsolete, and it is becoming extremely difficult to avoid the occurrence of serious nuisances. The question of the re-siting of these premises, together with the larger problem of providing a new abattoir, is one that must be dealt with fairly soon.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Details of the number of inspections made and of the number and type of contraventions found are given in the following tables:—

INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Without mechanical power	48	3	2	Nil.
With mechanical power	199	43	14	Nil.
Other premises ...	2	2	—	Nil.
Total	249	48	16	Nil.

DEFECTS FOUND.

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	1	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	1	—	—	1	—
Unreasonable temp- erature (S.3) ...	1	—	—	1	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :—					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	—	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	3	17	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences ...	1	—	—	—	—
Total	9	19	—	6	—

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Number on Register :—3.

Condition :—Fair. 41 inspections made during the year.

During the year there was a heavy demand for this type of accommodation, due no doubt to an influx of labour into the City.

Common lodging houses are out of harmony with the present social structure, and they would probably disappear through lack of trade if suitable hostel accommodation both for workers and elderly persons were provided.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

Number on Register :—1909.

The large number of houses occupied by more than one family is undoubtedly due to the shortage of separately constructed dwellings. Practically none of them conform to the bye-laws standard for houses let-in-lodgings, but to require the execution of the necessary work would absorb a large amount of labour and materials which otherwise would be used in the construction of new houses. The real answer is not the application of the low standard of the bye-laws but the conversion of the larger type of house into flats, and thus provide suitable separately constructed dwellings.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

Verbal warnings were given by the Sanitary Inspectors for the removal of six vans. The warnings were effective and no further action was necessary.

UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.

So far as present records show, there is no need for regulations.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

No. of premises in the district in which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold	...	...	...	...	6
No. of Inspections	...	...	...	...	4
No. of samples taken	...	...	...	...	4
All samples conformed to the legal standards.					

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

	Prefabricated Houses		Traditional Permanent Houses
	Temporary	Permanent	
(i.) By Local Authority ...	—	—	43 houses 26 Duplex (69 houses or 95 dwellings)
(ii.) By other Local Authorities ...	—	—	—
(iii.) By other bodies or persons ...	93 Aluminium houses (Ministry of Works)	—	22 houses (private enterprise)

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 6,793
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 7,305
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... 6,781
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 7,282
- (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 93
- (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 3,256

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT THE SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	14
---	-----	-----	-----	----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
---	-----	-----	------

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners	Nil.
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil.
---	------

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	16
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners	6
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil.
---	------

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
---	-----	-----	-----	------

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.
--	-----	-----	-----	------

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit... Nil.

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV.—OVERCROWDING.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...	113
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	129
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	434
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year ...	47
(c) (i) Number of cases of statutory overcrowding relieved during year...	*1
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such overcrowding	3

**Although only one case of statutory overcrowding was relieved during 1948, 224 families were re-housed for various other reasons.*

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

1. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The very exhaustive housing survey commenced in 1947 was completed by the middle of the year and the preparation of a very comprehensive report was put in hand. Extracts from the statistical information contained in this report are given in the following tables.

TABLE 1.

Classification of Dwellings according to Rateable Value.

£10 and under	£11 to £20	£21 to £40	Over £40	Not Rated Crown Property, etc.	Houses not Rated Separately	TOTAL
4,196 31.90%	7,448 56.62%	1,180 8.97%	276 2.10%	18 .14%	35 .27%	13,156 100%

TABLE 2.

Classification of Dwellings according to Age.

Built prior to 1864 At least 85 years old	1865—1889 58—84 years old	1890—1914 34—57 years old	1915—1939 9—33 years old	Since 1939	TOTAL
1,073 8.16%	3,033 23.06%	3,570 27.14%	5,071 38.55%	407 3.09%	13,156 100%

TABLE 3.

Classification of Dwellings according to Type.

Detached Houses	Semi-Detached Houses	Terrace Houses	Flats	Back-to-back Houses	Single Back Houses	Temporary Houses	TOTAL
456 3.47%	3,859 29.34%	8,342 63.42%	265 2.02%	20 .15%	8 .06%	203 1.54%	13,156 100%

TABLE 4.

Classification of Dwellings according to Manner of Occupation.

Occupied as Single Dwellings	Attached to Business Premises	Occupied by more than one family	Unoccupied houses	Common Lodging Houses	TOTAL
10,879 82.71%	360 2.74%	1,909 14.51%	2† .02	3 .02%	13,156 100%

† Golgotha Farm—To be converted by owners into 2 separate dwellings. 21, Captain's Row—The subject of a Demolition Order and not calculable for housing purposes. Temporary in use as office premises.

TABLE 5.

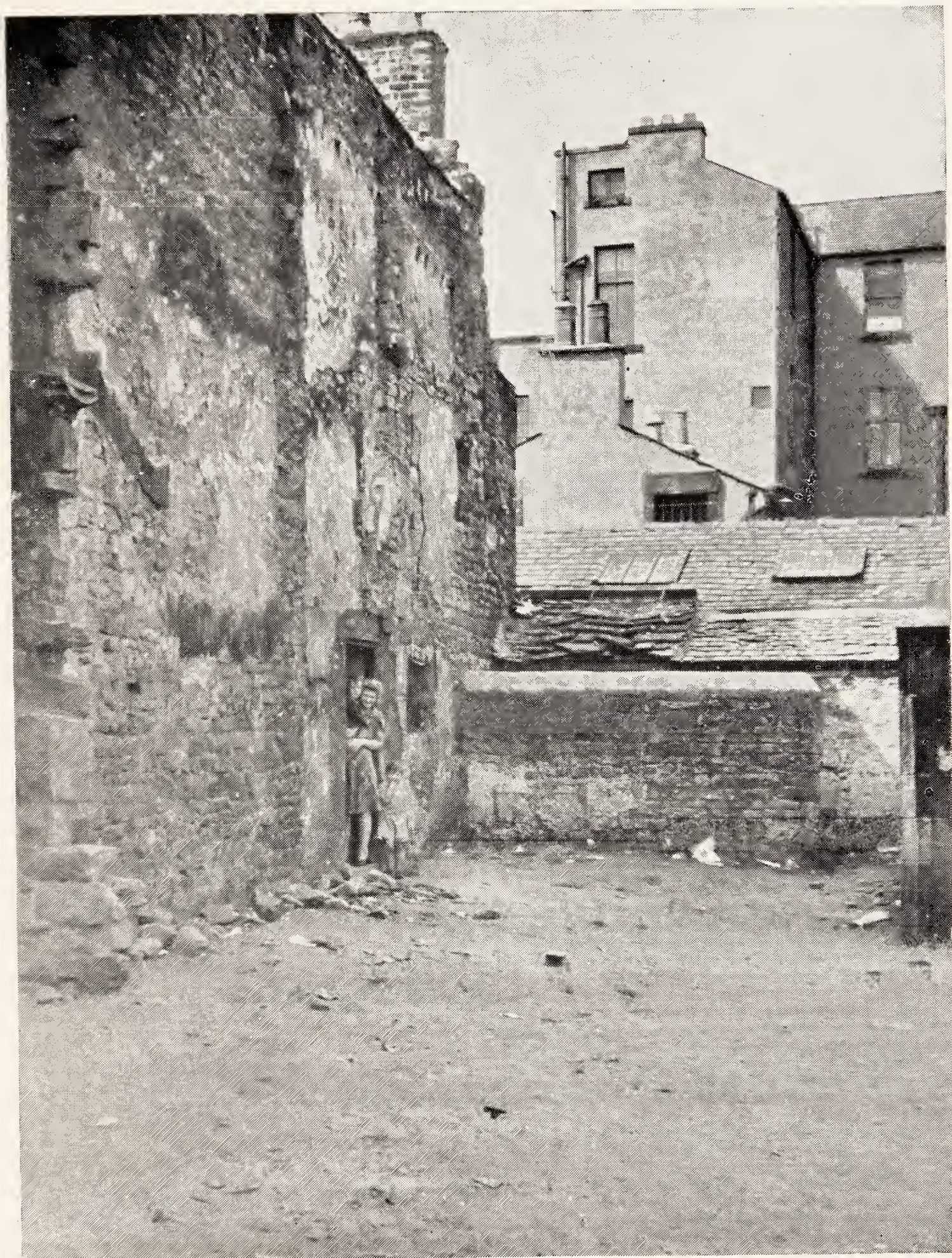
Classification of Dwellings according to General Conditions.

Ripe for Demolition	Possibly Ripe for Demolition	Suggested		In need of Structural Alteration	In need of Structural Alteration & Repair	In need of Repair	Fit or with minor defects only	Suitable for conversion into flats	TOTAL
		Closure	Compul'y Purchase						
264 2.07%	197 1.50%	20 .15%	36 .27%	599 4.55%	3,471 26.34%	1,725 13.11%	6,719 51.08%	122 .93%	13,156 100%

TABLE 6.

Overcrowded Dwellings. On present standard and on possible future standard.

Actually Overcrowded Present Standard Housing Act, 1936	Additional Houses which would become overcrowded if higher standard were adopted (bedroom standard)	Total overcrowding on both standards	TOTAL
113 0.86%	1,924 14.63%	2,037 15.49%	13,156 100%



An unfit house which is still occupied.

2. SUFFICIENCY OF SUPPLY OF HOUSES.

- (a) The net deficiency of dwellings at the present time (excluding those required for replacement of unfit houses) is estimated to be 1,291. In addition, 517 houses have been classified as ripe for demolition or closure within ten years.

Allowing for a very probable increase in the population and in the total number of households, something like 3,000 additional dwellings will be required during the next ten years.

- (b) Particulars of any housing scheme—

(i.) At the end of the year 56 permanent houses were in course of erection on the Hare Runs Estate. The development of the Hala Estate, which will ultimately contain 424 dwellings, was in progress.

(ii.) Contemplated. Ridge Estate was purchased in 1944 for housing purposes, and it is expected that lay-out plans for something like 600 houses will be ready during 1949.

- (c) Actual or anticipated population changes—

The Housing Survey completed during the year revealed a natural increase, and also an increase due to an influx of labour. It is anticipated that between 400 and 500 additional households will be brought into Lancaster during the next two years to meet an increased demand for labour. It has thus been estimated that the population of Lancaster in 1958 will be between 55,000 and 56,000, against a present population of about 51,000, and that the total number of private households will have increased from 15,296 to about 16,500.

3. OVERCROWDING.

- (a) Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the local authority which have been relieved during the year... Nil.
- (b) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... Nil.

- (c) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding, *e.g.*, causes—

The Housing Survey revealed that 868 dwellings containing a total of 3,688 rooms were each only occupied by one person. If by some method satisfactory to all concerned, these dwellings became available for families, overcrowding and many of our other housing problems could be solved almost immediately. The answer would appear to be the conversion of some of the larger houses into flats or guest houses for the elderly and single persons.

Up to the present time, overcrowding has undoubtedly been due to lack of accommodation and not to inability to pay the rents demanded. The present high cost of building must, however, be reflected in the economic rents of the new houses, and consequently the fear of inability to pay rents may become a contributory factor to overcrowding in the near future.

4. FITNESS OF HOUSES.

- (a) Difficulties found in action under Public Health or Housing Acts—

The situation during 1948 was somewhat easier than was the case of the previous year. It is still necessary, however, to avoid serving Housing Act notices in order not to retard the building of houses and the abatement of nuisances.

- | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| (b) | Number of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29 |
| (c) | Number of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 74 |

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. MILK SUPPLY.

The administration of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1926-43 :—

The tendency towards fewer, but larger and better equipped premises, used for the distribution of milk continued during the year. During the last few years 16 unsatisfactory dairies have been closed, and at the end of 1948 only 8 premises other than farms were on the register of dairies.

MILK (Special Designations) ORDERS, 1936 to 1946.

Number of Dealer's Licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1948, in respect of :—

“Tuberculin Tested” Milk :—

- (i.) Bottling, Nil. (ii.) Distribution, 28.

“Accredited” Milk :—

- (i.) Bottling, Nil. (ii.) Distribution, Nil.

Number of Licences issued in respect of “Pasteured” Milk :—

- (i.) Pasteurising Plants, Nil. (ii.) Retail Distributors, 2.

No licences were revoked or refused during the year.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Dairies are visited once a month and farms about twice a year.

Eight farms are accredited and five are up to a good standard, whilst the remainder are in fair condition.

No structural alterations or major improvements were carried out during the year.

FARMS.

Number of Dairy Farms, 16. Approximate number of cows, 494.

Number of cowkeepers (including dairy farms), 16.

Number of inspections during the year, 40.

DAIRYMEN OR MILK PURVEYORS.

Number of dairymen or milk purveyors (other than cowkeepers), 130.

Action taken by local authority as to :—

(i.) Tuberculous Milk.

Number of samples submitted for biological test .. 85.

Result—Positive ... Nil. Negative ... 85.

(ii.) Bacteriological Examinations.

All non-designated raw milk is subjected to methylene blue and coliform bacillus tests as prescribed for accredited standard. Special designated milks as per Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1936-46.

Number of samples, 168. Number satisfactory, 135.

Number unsatisfactory, 33.

SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL TESTS.

TABLE 1. METHYLENE BLUE AND B. COLI.

No. of Samples Taken.	Nondescript Raw Milk.	Tuberculin Tested Milk.	Pasteurised Milk.
Total No. taken	115	28	24
No. satisfactory	87	26	22
No. unsatisfactory	28	2	2
Per. cent	24.35%	7.15 %	8.33%

TABLE 2. PHOSPHATASE TEST.

Total No. taken	6	—	24
No. satisfactory	5	—	22
No. unsatisfactory	1	—	2
Per cent.	16.67%	—	8.33%

The results of the tests indicate an appreciable improvement in the keeping quality of all grades of milk during the year. The percentage of unsatisfactory samples taken during 1948 were : Nondescript Raw Milk 38 per cent., Tuberculin Tested Milk 55.5 per cent., and Pasteurised Milk 42.1 per cent.

TABLE 3. TUBERCULOSIS.

Total No. taken	52	19	13
No. negative	52	19	13
No. positive	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Per cent. positive	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

2. MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following are particulars of meat inspection carried out during the year at the abattoir.

Number of animals slaughtered at abattoir :—

Cattle	2,041
Calves	4,517
Sheep	11,796
Pigs	1,494

Amount of meat condemned :—

(a) For tuberculosis :

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Cattle	47	12	3	5
Calves	0	6	3	13
Sheep	—	—	—	—
Pigs...	—	4	2	2
	48	4	0	20

(b) For other conditions :

Cattle	30	18	3	27
Calves	2	3	3	12
Sheep	3	4	3	9
Pigs...	—	16	0	13
	37	3	3	5

Particulars of foodstuffs condemned during 1948:—

170 visits were made to food shops and stores, and the following amounts of food were condemned as unfit for human consumption :

	Tins.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Tinned Meat ...	459	0	13	0	5
„ Milk ...	751	0	5	3	16
„ Fish ...	269	0	1	1	13
„ Fruit ...	354	0	7	2	18
„ Vegetables	848	0	13	0	0
Miscellaneous ...	244	0	2	3	23
	<u>2,925</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>19</u>

CONDEMNED FOODSTUFFS.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Bacon	0	0	1	5
Butter	0	0	1	26
Cake	0	0	1	23
Cereals	0	11	1	9
Cheese	0	0	1	9
Fruit and Vegetables	0	0	3	14
Fruit, Dried	0	2	1	16
Fish, Cured	1	0	1	16
Fish, Fresh	0	1	3	7
Fish, Roll	0	3	0	0
Flour	0	0	0	1
Flour, Soya	0	0	0	7
Ham	0	0	1	6
Margarine	0	0	0	14
Meat	0	1	1	1
Mixture, Cake	0	0	2	14
Mixture, Pudding ...	0	0	1	7
Pepper	0	0	0	1
Pickles	0	0	2	17
Preserves... ..	0	0	0	2
Sausage	0	0	1	12
Tea	0	0	0	6
	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>17</u>

Black Puddings, 56 ; Eggs, 120 ; Fish Cakes, 120 ; French Cheese, 52 boxes ; Pig Chine Bones (Danish) 400 lbs. ; Salad Dressing, 1 gallon.

Legal Proceedings, Nil.

3. INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

During the year the following number of inspections were made of the various food premises :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Butchers shops, Meat stores, Abattoir, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	579
Fish fryers	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Restaurant kitchens, etc.	.	...	...	...	...	...	15
Ice Cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Market Stalls...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Other food premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	92

Some progress was made in raising the general standard of cleanliness at all types of premises. Many of the buildings, and much of the equipment, are obsolete or otherwise below modern standards, but circumstances at present are against many desired changes.

SAMPLING OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The following foods and drugs were submitted for analysis :—

MILK.		Deficient.		
No. of Samples taken.	No. of poor quality (not adulterated).	Legal proceedings not considered warranted.		Obviously Adulterated.
Formal ... 74	31	—		2
Informal ... 126	36	—		1
		Milk Fat.	Non-fatty solids.	Water.
Average for the year ...		3·15%	8·56%	88·29%
Legal minimum standard...		3·00%	8·50%	88·50%

AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION OF MILK.

Description.	Daily Consumption in Gallons.		Per Centum of Whole.
Non-designated raw milk ...	2044	...	58·92%
Pasteurised milk ...	1050 (approx.)	...	30·27%
Tuberculin-tested milk ...	375	...	10·81%
Total ...	3469	...	100%

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM.

No. of Samples taken.	Methelene Blue Decolourisation Test.		B. Coli.		Ministry of Health Provisional Grades.			
	Satisfac-tory.	Unsatisfac-tory.	Absent. Satisfac-tory.	Present. Unsatisfac-tory.	1	2	3	4
55	30	25	48	7	23	7	11	14

ANALYSIS OF OTHER FOODS AND DRUGS.

Food or Drug.				No. of samples taken.	Not genuine.	Remarks.
Bi-Carbonate of Soda				I	—	
Brandy				I	—	
Butter				I	—	
Cocoa				I	—	
Coffee				I	—	
Gin				I	—	
Honey				I	—	
Jam, Plum				I	—	
Ketchup, Mushroom				I	—	
Margarine				I	—	
Meat, Potted				I	—	
Milk, Condensed				I	—	
Mint, Dried				I	—	
Mustard				I	—	
Oil, Cooking				2	—	
„ Salad				I	—	
Paraffin, Liquid				2	—	
Powder, Blanc Mange				I	—	
„ Golden Raising				I	—	
Rum				I	—	
Salts, Epsom				I	—	
Sauce				I	—	
„ Horseradish				I	—	
„ Mint				I	—	
Spearmint				I	—	
Stout				I	—	
Sugar				I	—	
Tablets, Calcium Lactate				I	—	
Vinegar, Malt				I	—	
Whisky				I	—	
Wine, Port				I	—	
33					—	

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS DURING 1948.

Date.	Offence.	Result.
16/9/48	Food & Drugs Act, 1938, Section 3, Selling Milk deficient in fat.	Fined £2 on each of two counts (£4 in all) and costs amounting to £1 16s. od. awarded

WATER SUPPLY.

No alterations in the source of supply of water were made during the year. The water, which is partly moorland surface water from the Council's own catchment area, and partly from Manchester's Thirlmere supply, is subjected to mechanical filtration and chlorination.

13,212 dwelling houses have an internal piped supply ; 15 have an individual piped supply which is situated in buildings at the rear of the houses ; one block of seven houses and another block of three houses rely on a common standpipe for each block. One house is supplied by a spring, one from a stream, and one is reliant on rain water. These latter houses are situated in the rural part of the area, and it has not been reasonably practicable to provide a piped supply.

SAMPLING OF TAP WATER.

Six samples of tap water from houses were submitted for analysis and nineteen for bacteriological examination. The reports, abstracts of which are given in the following table, indicate that the supply was satisfactory.

Chemical examination of tap water :—

Test.	17/2/48.	17/2/48.	17/2/48.	5/5/48.	5/5/48.	5/5/48.
Colour	Normal	Normal	Normal	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Turbidity	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Oxygen Absorbed..	0.0360	0.0064	0.0405	0.02	0.06	0.08
Free and Saline						
Ammonia	0.0107	0.0010	0.0060	Trace	Trace	Trace
Albuminoid						
Ammonia	0.0010	0.0005	0.0040	0.0015	0.004	0.011
Nitrous Nitrogen...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Nitric Nitrogen ...	0.0073	0.0140	0.0090	0.006	0.008	0.009
Chlorides	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.2
Hardness, } Temp.	Nil.	Nil.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Clarke's } Perm't	6.0	5.0	5.0	4.5	4.0	4.0
Method } Total	6.0	5.0	5.5	5.0	4.5	4.5
Reaction, pH. ...	7.3	6.8	6.7	7.4	7.4	7.0
Action on Lead ...	less than 0.01	0.01	less than 0.01	0.4	0.1	0.06
Metals	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Solids in solution..	9.0	7.0	8.0	0.006	0.006	0.009

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF TAP WATER.

Date.	Aerobic micro-organisms growing in yeastral agar	Probable No. of coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water.	District sample taken.	Remarks.
	in 2 days at 37°C.			
7/1/48	4	0	Skerton W.	
16/2/48	110+	170		Sample from Yacht "Mascot," Glasson Dock.
17/2/48	2	0	Scotforth	
do.	3	0	Park	
13/3/48	1	0	J. o'Gaunt.	
do.	1	0	Skerton W.	
do.	2	0	do.	
5/5/48	0	0	Park	
do.	0	0	J. o'Gaunt	
do.	0	0	Scotforth	
20/7/48	0	0	Park	
do.	0	0	do.	
do.	0	0	J. o'Gaunt	
30/10/48	4	0	Scotforth	
do.	6	0	Park	
do.	10	0	do.	
9/12/48	5	0	Skerton W.	
do.	14	0	do.	
do.	8	0	Scotforth	

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF SWIMMING BATH WATER.

Six samples of Swimming Bath water were submitted for bacteriological examination and extracts from the reports are given below :—

Date.	Aerobic micro-organisms growing in yeastral agar	Probable No. of coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water.	Bath from which sample was taken.	Remarks.
	in 2 days at 37°C.			
10/3/48	6	0	Corp. Major Plunge.	
6/7/48	0	0	Corp Major Plunge.	
do.	6	1	Corp. Minor Plunge.	
do.	2	0	Lancaster R.G. School.	
19/8/48	5	0	Corp. Major Plunge.	
do.	9	0	Corp. Minor Plunge.	

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT.—CINEMAS.

Thirty-one inspections of cinemas were made during the year and all six premises were, generally speaking, maintained in a clean condition.

Improvements were made to the ventilating system at one cinema, but a comprehensive scheme for providing additional sanitary accommodation and air conditioning in three other cinemas had again to be postponed because of inability to obtain building licences.

ADMINISTRATION OF RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Details of the premises visited, number found to be infested, and estimated kill of both rats and mice are given in the following tables :—

INSPECTIONS.

Complaints received and investigated.			Infestations found as a result of complaints.			Routine Inspections	Infestations found as a result of routine inspections.		No. of re-inspections and re-visits.
Rats	Mice	Rats and Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats and Mice		Rats	Mice	
115	45	—	62	47	—	406	29	23	2195

TREATMENT OF INFESTED PREMISES.

No. of traps set.		Pre-baits laid.		Post-baits laid.		Poison baits laid.		Test baits laid.	
Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice
51	3	3800	4584	754	955	2190	2584	720	20

Estimated kill.		Bodies recovered.	
Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice
7754	4753	95	103

PREMISES CLEARED, ETC.

Premises cleared of rats.	Premises cleared of mice.	No. of drains tested.	Drains found to be defective.
51	39	52	24

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES, Etc.

Information concerning the disinfection and disinfestation of premises and articles carried out during the year is given in the following tables :—

DISINFECTION (Premises).

Premises Disinfected.			Single Rooms Disinfected.		
No. of Whole Houses.	No. of Ships.	No. of other Premises.	In Houses.	In Ships.	In other Premises.
2	Nil.	Nil.	87	Nil.	1

DISINFECTION (Books and other Articles).

Books Disinfected.		Other Articles.	Articles Destroyed.	
Public Library.	Private Library.		Books.	Other Articles.
126	21	Nil.	Nil.	17

DISINFESTATION.

Premises.		Single Rooms.	Articles.	Articles destroyed.
Corporation Houses	30	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Other Houses ...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Ships ...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Other Premises ...	Nil.	1	Nil.	Nil.
Totals ...	30	1	Nil.	Nil.

PART III.

PORT HEALTH.

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

There were no notifications of infectious disease on board ship.

In six instances it was necessary to give verbal warnings for minor contraventions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Port Health Regulations, but, generally speaking, all ships inspected were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

Number of Inspections by Medical Officer of Health	8
Number of Inspections by Senior Sanitary Inspector	26

PART IV.

STATISTICS RELATING TO SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION

As the figures are usually given for the whole year, the same procedure is followed as formerly, although after July 4th the administration passed to the Divisional Medical Officer for Area No. 2 of the Lancashire County Council.

TABLE 1.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF CHILDREN ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Schools whose inspection was completed	...	27
Number of Inspections in the prescribed groups :		
Entrants	... ..	818
Second age group	... ..	705
Third age group	... ..	562
	Total	2085
Number of Parents present at Routine Inspections	...	664

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

	In Schools.	In School Clinics.	Total.
Number of Special Inspections	243	680	923
Number of Re-inspections	1,128	—	1,128
Totals	1,371	680	2,051
Number of Parents present at Special Inspections	...	413	413

C.—CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL
INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (EXCLUDING DEFECTS OF
NUTRITION, UNCLEANLINESS, AND DENTAL DISEASES).

Group (All Schools).	Defective Vision (excluding Squint).	All other Conditions.	Total (Individual Children).
Entrants	12	108	120
Second Age Group	20	40	60
Third Age Group	20	28	48
Total	52	176	228

TABLE II.

RESULTS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION DURING THE YEAR IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND IN SCHOOL CLINICS.

A.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Routine Inspections.

Special Inspections.

Number of Children examined

2,085

923

Disease or Defect.	Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
	Number of Defects.		Number of Defects.	
	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but NOT requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but NOT requiring treatment.
<i>Skin</i>	7	44	16	23
<i>Eyes.</i>				
Vision	43	60	22	38
Squint	9	13	4	3
Other Conditions	9	11	2	16
<i>Ears.</i>				
Hearing	2	8	8	15
Otitis Media	—	1	—	—
Other Ear Diseases	6	16	14	27
<i>Nose or Throat</i>	130	347	73	148
<i>Speech</i>	3	25	7	11
<i>Cervical Glands</i>	2	33	—	6
<i>Heart and Circulation</i>	4	55	1	19
<i>Lungs</i>	4	63	—	28
Carried forward ...	219	676	147	334

Disease or Defect					Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
					Number of Defects.		Number of Defects.	
					Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but NOT requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but NOT requiring treatment.
Brought forward ...					219	676	147	334
<i>Developmental.</i>								
Hernia					1	2	1	1
Other					—	4	—	2
<i>Orthopædic.</i>								
Posture					12	35	1	4
Flat-foot					7	17	9	5
Other					13	53	9	22
<i>Nervous System.</i>								
Epilepsy					2	5	1	3
Other					—	3	1	8
<i>Psychological.</i>								
Development					—	7	—	2
Stability					—	12	—	1
<i>Other</i>					2	49	5	35
Total					256	863	174	417

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Age-Groups (All Schools).	Number of Children Inspected.	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	818	200	24·45	493	60·15	125	15·4
Second Age Group	705	175	24·80	420	59·60	110	15·6
Third Age Group	562	137	24·40	364	64·80	61	10·8
Total... ..	2085	512	24·56	1277	61·24	296	14·2

TABLE III.

TREATMENT TABLES.

RETURN OF DEFECTS KNOWN TO HAVE RECEIVED TREATMENT
DURING THE YEAR, EITHER AT THE AUTHORITY'S CLINICS OR
ELSEWHERE.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness).

(a)	Disease or Defect.	No. of defects treated or under treatment during the year.			
Skin :—					
Ringworm—Scalp—					
		Thurnham House.		Ryelands House.	
	(i.) X-ray Treatment ...	...	4	...	0
	(ii.) Other Treatment ...	...	10	...	6
	Ringworm—Body ...	...	2	...	1
	Scabies ...	...	9	...	3
	Impetigo ...	...	48	...	97
	Other Skin Disease...	...	105	...	49
	Minor Eye Diseases ...	...	49	...	70
	Minor Ear Defects ...	...	41	...	33
	Miscellaneous (<i>e.g.</i> , minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ...	...	411	...	369
	Total ...		679	...	628

(b) Total number of attendances at Authority's
Minor Ailments Clinics ... 2,416 ... 1,576

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT
(excluding Eye Diseases treated as Minor Ailments).

Number of Defects dealt with.		Number of Children for whom Spectacles were—	
Errors of Refraction (including Squint).	Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes	Prescribed.	Obtained.
265	—	188	178

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.			
Received operative treatment.		Received other forms of treatment.	Total number treated.
For Adenoids and Chronic Tonsillitis.	For other Nose and Throat Conditions.		
72	8	51	131

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) Number treated as In-patients in Hospitals or Hospital Schools 3

(b) Number treated otherwise, *e.g.*, in Clinics or Out-patient Departments 17

GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND SPEECH THERAPY.

Number of children treated—(a) under Child Guidance arrangements ... —

(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements ... 14

TABLE IV.

A.—RETURN OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN THE AREA

Category.	In Special Schools		In Maintained Primary & Secondary Schools		In Independent Schools		Not at School		Total	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
A.—Blind	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
B.—Partially Sighted	2	2	2	4	—	—	—	—	4	6
C.—Deaf	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
D.—Partially Deaf...	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
E.—Delicate	3	1	45	52	—	—	—	1	48	54
F.—Diabetic	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
G.—Educationally Sub-normal ...	—	—	54	45	—	—	1	—	55	45
H.—Epileptic	1	3	2	4	—	—	—	—	3	7
I.—Maladjusted ...	—	—	10	3	—	—	—	—	10	3
J.—Physically Handicapped...	2	—	18	11	—	—	3	—	23	11
K.—Speech Defect ...	—	—	10	2	—	—	—	—	10	2

TABLE V.—INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

Work of the School Nurses or other Authorised Persons.

Total number of visits paid to schools	...	...	...	225
Average number of visits per school made during the year				8
Total number of examinations of children in the schools...				21,767
Total number of individual children found to be infested...				446
Number of individual children in respect of whom Cleansing Notices were issued (Sect. 54(2) Edn. Act, 1944)			...	—
Number of individual children in respect of whom Cleansing Orders were issued (Sect. 54(3) Edn. Act, 1944)			...	—
Number of interviews with parents	...	...	...	161
Number of visits to homes	...	...	...	161

